

Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior listings, and versions, of claims in the subject patent application.

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended): Method in removal of internal bones in a fore-end of a split carcass, ~~characterized in~~

~~that including:~~

~~bringing a transport tool (27a) is brought to grip around the free end of the shank bone;~~

,

~~—that pulling the fore-end is pulled past cutting tools (1, 9, 15) by means of the transport tool;~~,

~~—that having the cutting tools (1, 9, 15) hereby perform cutting operations along the shank bone and the humerus bone guided by these bones to free-cut at least partial these from the rest of the fore-end; and , and~~

~~—that maintaining the articulations between at least the shank bone and the humerus bone and possibly also the connections of the humerus bone to the shoulder blade are maintained at least partially unbroken during the cutting operations, so that the tractive force from the transport tool (27a) by the grip of the tool around the free end of the shank bone is transferred to the bones via their unbroken connections.~~

2 (currently amended): Method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that further~~
~~including guiding at least one cutting tool (15) is also guided by the shoulder blade to~~
perform cutting operations along this for loosening from the rest of the fore-end.

3 (currently amended): Method according to claim 1, characterized in that further including supporting the fore-end is supported on a transport plane (3) during the cutting operations.

4 (currently amended): Method according to claim 1, characterized in that further including flexibly suspending at least some of the cutting tools ~~are flexibly suspended~~, so that during the cutting operation they are flexibly loaded against the shank bone, the humerus bone and/or the shoulder blade.

5 (currently amended): Method according to claim 1, characterized in that further including employing a machine to make makes two cuts along opposite sides of the shank bone near the free end of this before the transport tool (27a) is brought to grip around the free end of the shank bone, so that the transport tool can grip down into these two cuts and obtain contact with the shank bone.

6 (currently amended): Method according to claim 1, characterized in that further including moving at least the shank bone, ~~the and the~~ humerus bone ~~and possibly the shoulder blade~~, after the cutting operations with the cutting tools (1, 9, 15), ~~are moved~~ in a direction upwards from the transport plane of the fore-end (3, 34), while the rest of the fore-end is kept at the transport plane by retaining means (33), whereby at least the shank bone and the humerus bone, ~~and possibly the shoulder blade~~ are removed from the fore-end.

7 (currently amended): Apparatus for use in removal of internal bones in a fore-end of a split carcass, characterized in that it comprises comprising:

[[-]] a transport tool (27a) with grippers that can be brought to grip around the free end of the shank bone; ;

[[-]] a transport device (27) for the transport tool (27a) to pull the fore-end along a transport path; ; and

[[-]] a plurality of cutting tools (1, 9, 15) arranged along the transport path to perform cutting operations along the shank bone and the humerus bone guided by these bones to at least partial free-cut these from the rest of the fore-end when the fore-end is pulled past the cutting tools.

8 (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 7, characterized in that wherein at least one cutting tool is also guided by the shoulder blade to perform cutting operations along this for loosening from the rest of the fore-end.

9 (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 7, characterized in that it comprises further comprising a transport plane (3) to support the fore-end during the cutting operations.

10 (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 7, characterized in that wherein at least some of the cutting tools are flexibly suspended, so that during the cutting operation they are flexibly loaded against at least one of a the shank bone, the a humerus bone and/or the a shoulder blade.

11 (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 7, characterized in that it comprises further comprising a cutting tool (15), which is designed adapted to perform two cuts along opposite sides of the shank bone near its free end before the transport tool (27a) is

brought to grip around the free end of the shank bone, so that the transport tool can grip down into these two cuts and obtain contact with the shank bone.

12 (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 7, characterized in that it comprises further comprising a transport device (32) designed adapted to move, after the cutting operations with the cutting tools (1, 9, 15), at least the shank bone, and the humerus bone ~~and possibly the shoulder blade~~ in a direction upwards from the transport plane (3, 34) of the fore-end, and retaining means (33) designed to keep for keeping the rest of the fore-end at the transport plane while at least the shank bone, and the humerus bone ~~and possibly the shoulder blade~~ are moved in a direction upwards from the transport plane, whereby the shank bone, the humerus bone and possibly the shoulder blade are removed from the fore-end.

13 (currently amended): Positioning device to place the free end of the shank of a fore-end in a transport tool (27a), characterized in that it comprises comprising a conveyor belt (23) to convey the fore-end with the shank in front in the direction towards the transport tool (27a), a funnel device (24) to guide the free end of the shank to fit tightly against the narrowed part of the funnel, a gripper (26) to grip the shank when the free end is in the narrowed part of the funnel device, means to move the funnel device away from the fore-end when the gripper has gripped around the shank, and a transport device to move the gripper (26) with retained fore-end with the shank in front until the free end of the shank is placed in the transport tool (27a).

14 (currently amended): Device according to claim 13, characterized in that it comprises further comprising a cutting tool (25) to perform two cuts along opposite sides of the shank bone near its free end before the gripper (26) grips around the shank.

15 (currently amended): Transport device for conveying fore-ends with the shank in front with the fore-ends retained in each of their own transport tool, characterized in that it comprises further comprising a conveyor (27) with a continuous chain of transport tools (27a), each of which is provided with means to grip around and retain the free end of the shank of a fore-end that is supplied at the entrance end of the conveyor.

16 (currently amended): Device according to claim 15, characterized in that wherein each transport tool (27a) includes comprises a frame placed across the transport direction, in which frame the shank can be retained by displacement of the frame transversely to the transport direction.

17 (currently amended): Extraction device for extraction of at least the shank bone and the humerus bone and possibly the shoulder blade from a fore-end which is supplied supported on a transport plane, and in which fore-end the bones are at least partially cut free from the rest of the fore-end, characterized in that it comprises comprising a transport device (32), which is designed adapted to move at least the shank bone, and the humerus bone and possibly the shoulder blade in a direction upwards from the transport plane (3, 34) of the fore-end, and retaining devices (33) which are designed to keep the rest of the fore-end at the transport plane while at least the shank bone, and the humerus bone and possibly the shoulder blade are moved in a direction upwards from the transport plane, whereby at least the shank bone, and the humerus bone and possibly the shoulder blade are removed from the fore-end.

18 (currently amended): Knife tool, characterized in that it comprises comprising a blade (40) and a motor to turn the blade around an axle (40a) that is at right angles to the

plane of the blade, ~~that~~ the blade, at a distance from the axle, having ~~has~~ two cutting edges (40b) which meet in a point (40c), and ~~that~~ one of these said cutting edges is located to the an inward side of ~~the~~ a circular arc that the point describes when the blade (40) is turned around the axle in ~~the~~ a direction of the point, and the other cutting edge to the outward side of the circular arc, whereby the parts of the cutting edges have increasing distance from the circular arc in ~~the~~ a direction backwards from the point (40c).

19 (currently amended): Knife tool according to claim 18, characterized in that wherein the internal cutting edge (40b) has the shape of an arc with a smaller radius than the circular arc that the point (40c) describes when the blade is turned, and that the external cutting edge (40b) has the shape of an arc with a bigger radius than the circular arc that the point (40c) describes.